

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 /074 W
-----051288 271320Z /43

R 270909Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

SECSTATE WASHDC 8280

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TUNIS FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, ETRD, MT, KS, TS

SUBJECT: VISIT OF ROK AMBASSADOR WHANG TO MALTA

REF: A) TUNIS 3302, B) TUNIS 3532, C) TUNIS 4236.

1. REPUBLIC OF KOREA AMBASSADOR TO TUNISIA HO-EUL WHANG VISITED MALTA BETWEEN JUNE 19 AND 24. HE MET WITH EMBASSY OFFICIALS INCLUDING AMBASSADOR ON TWO OCCASIONS FOR GENERAL BRIEFING ON MALTESE POLITICAL/ECONOMIC SITUATION AND ACTIVITIES OF NORTH KOREA IN MALTA. ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT MEET WITH GOM FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS (REPORTEDLY THIS WAS A CONDITION FOR THE GRANTING OF A VISA TO VISIT MALTA) HE DID MEET WITH JOE CASSAR, CHAIRMAN OF MALTA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, HENRY COPPINI, PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF GOM MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT, HONORARY CONSUL FOR KOREA IN MALTA, VARIOUS LOCAL BUSINESSMEN, AND BROTHER OF GOM FOREIGN SECRETARY ABELA. VISIT GENERATED NO LOCAL PRESS COVERAGE. ACCORDING TO WHANG, MAJOR REASONS FOR TRIP WERE TO GAUGE MALTESE INTEREST IN POSSIBLE ROK JOINT VENTURE PROJECTS IN MALTA, EXPANSION
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OF ROK/MALTA TRADE AND POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT OF MALTESE LABOR IN KOREAN CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST. WHANG APPEARED TO BELIEVE THAT THERE WAS SOME POTENTIAL FOR EXPANSION OF ROK/GOM OFFICIAL TIES BUT APPRECIATED LOCAL POLITICAL OBSTACLES TO ANY VISIBLE SOUTH KOREAN PRESENCE HERE.

2. FOR TUNIS: IF YOU HAVE THE OCCASION TO SPEAK WITH
AMBASSADOR WHANG ABOUT HIS VISIT IN THE NEAR FUTURE, I
WOULD APPRECIATE BEING ADVISED OF HIS VIEWS ABOUT IT.

BEST REGARDS. LAINGEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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